China as the sole, legitimate representative of the Chinese people.

Compensation for Damages caused to Indian Embassy building in Kuwait

1677. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian embassy building in Kuwait was razed down by the Iraqi Army in August, 1990;

(b) if so, what is the extent of loss of life and property;

(c) whether Government have asked the Iraqi Government to pay compensation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) There was some damage to the building. Compensation is to be paid by the United Nations Compensation Commission to which the claim will be submittted in due course.

Strengthening Ties with U.S.A.

1678. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are contemplated by India to strengthen the ties with United States;

(b) whether the Government of India have convinced the United States of America that Kashmir is the integral part of India;

(c) whether there is any proposals for the visit of the Prime Minister to United States; and

(d) whether there is any pending invitation from India to the President of United States to visit India; if not, whether the Government of India have any proposal to invite President of the United States of America to visit India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) As the two largest democracies, India and the US share certain identity of views. Meetings at political level, official consultations and frequent interaction at other levels have been intensified to strengthen Ido-US ties.

(b) The US considers that the so-called Kashmir problem should be resolved in the spirit of the Shimla Agreement.

(c) Yes, Sir. No dates have been finalised.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Indian Peace Keeping Force to Cambodia

1679. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to send an Indian peace keeping force to Cambodia; and

(b) if so the strength of the proposed Indian Contingent and by when it will be sent to Cambodia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) At the request of the UN Secretary General, Government of India has decided to contribute personnel to the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC). Three military liaison officers have so far been selected for the UNAMIC and it is expected that these officers will be deployed with the UN by the middle of this month. UNAMIC will be succeeded by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) which will assist the Supreme National Council of Cambodia to administer the country and hold free and fair elections. The strength of the Indian component of UNTAC will be determined on the

basis of the requirements to be indicated by the United Nations.

Efficient Functioning of Passport Offices

1680. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 965 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd December, 1991 and state:

(a) the number of passport applications pending in various offices on this date officewise;

(b) whether Government are aware that the public is unhappy with the service given by our passport issuing authorities;

(c) whether the staff in all such offices has been given orientation for public dealing; and

(d) details of steps proposed to be taken to reduce delays and hostile attitude to public in passport offices all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Information is given in Statement—I. (*See* below)

(b) The Government is aware that services rendered to public get delayed due to manpower shortage and time taken in receiving reports from State police on applicants.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, from time to time necessity for polite and curteous public dealing has been emphasised on officers and staff of passport offices. Passport procedures have been simplified with a view to expediting issue of passports. Details of steps taken are given in Statement—II.

Statement-I

Following table gives total number of applications for passports at various stages of processing in each passport office as on 2nd December, 1991:—

1.	RPO, Ahmedabad	27,917
2.	PO, Bangalore	21,836
3.	PO, Bareilly	20,687
4.	PO, Bhopal	4,518
5.	PO, Bhubaneshwar	881
6.	RPO, Bombay	63,262
7.	RPO, Calcutta	11,94[illegible]
8.	RPO, Chandigarh	53,531
9.	RPO, Cochin	1,25,769
10.	RPO, Delhi	16,04[illegible]
11	PO, Hyderabad	73,02[illegible]
12.	PO, Goa	2,68[illegible]
13	PO, Guwahati	1,96[illegible]
		(as on 22-11-9